

R E M A R K S

In accordance with the foregoing, the specification is amended. No new matter is being presented and approval and entry of the amendments are respectfully requested.

Claims 6-25 are pending in the application.

Substitute copies of all amended claims and paragraphs are set forth as an attachment hereto.

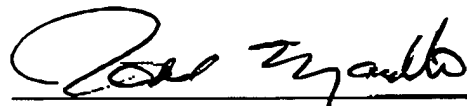
EVIDENCE OF COMMERCIAL SUCCESS:

Attached is a declaration under §1.132 from Mr. Eric Udler, President of Super Pet Expo to provide evidence of commercial success of the COMFORT TRAINER, a commercial embodiment of the subject invention.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPHS

PAGE 1, PARAGRAPH 3:

C1 Both the choking collar and the spiked collar are based on the infliction of pain to restrain the dog, and are looked upon by some as being inhumane. In addition, they may not be very effective, first, because the directional guidance provided to the dog is somewhat rough, and second because the dog will respond in inverse proportion to the thickness of its pelt at the neck.

PAGE 1 PARAGRAPH 4 continuing onto PAGE 2:

C2
Cont. Currently, there are five head training holders available on the market that have stressed function over comfort; the K9 KUMALONG, GENTLE LEADER, BEHAVE, SNOOT LOOP, and HALTI. All five head halters use nylon strapping with abrasive edges. The connectors used on these training halters are snap-on devices which are adjustable. As the head halter is used, the nylon strap over the dog's muzzle has a tendency to irritate. It rubs off the fur and can cause reddening of the skin. The GENTLE LEADER, in particular, rests just below the eyes and can cause swelling of the eye lids. As these devices are used, the back adjuster tends to slip looser and looser, making one have to pause in the training process to tighten. It is difficult for a

C3
Cont.
dog to open its mouth to pant or drink. These devices also choke high on the neck in order to stay on.

PAGE 5, PARAGRAPH 2:

C3
A collapsible snout loop 11 encircles the snout of the dog and includes an upper nose member 12 connected to an under nose member 20 by rings 14 and 16. The nose member 12 is made of soft cotton/nylon braid and is cylindrical. All other straps are flat braided nylon weaves. The loops or rings can be either metal or hard plastic.

PAGE 5, PARAGRAPH 3:

C4
An under nose member 20 has a cinch ring 22. The under nose member 20 is connected to cinch ring 22 by ring 24. A collar member 30 releasably encircles the dog's neck. Collar member 30 includes a top strap 60 and a bottom strap 64 that are connected together by a pair of rings 32 and 34. A leash 40 is attached to the ring 24.

PAGE 5, PARAGRAPH 4:

C5
Cont.
A left cheek strap 50 is connected to the ring 16 and the ring 34. A right cheek strap 52 is connected to the ring 14 and the ring 34. Top strap 60 includes an adjustable buckle 62. Bottom strap 64 is connected to the ring 32 and the ring 34. An

C5
Concl.
under chin strap 66 is sewn onto the center of bottom strap 64, then is doubled over going through the ring 22 and returning to the center of bottom strap 64 to be sewn therein. The buckle behind the ears is made of nickel plated aluminum or steel with an additional tie stay attached to hold down extra strapping.

PAGE 5, PARAGRAPH 5 continuing onto PAGE 6:

C6
When the halter is secured to a dog's head as shown in Figure 2, tension applied to the leash will be primarily felt around the nose or muzzle area of the dog. The more tightly the leash is pulled, the more tightly the nose member 12 will pull against the dog's muzzle. Thus, the handler has a secure grip of the dog's muzzle without causing pain or permanently restraining the dog from opening its mouth. The halter is self-adjusting to a certain degree, in that when the animal moves its head to one side or raises or lowers its head, the side loop and collar members can move relative to one another to the extent allowed by the length of the connecting loops. This makes the halter more comfortable and less restricting for the dog and allows it to move its head more easily in response to the handler tensioning the leash.

PAGE 6, PARAGRAPH 1:

C1
Refer now to Figure 2 where the nose member 12 rests anywhere from 1/4 inches to 2 inches below the eyes fo the dog, depending on the breed of the dog in which the training halter 10 is used. The under nose member 20 is under the dog's jaw/chin and hangs loosely below this area, leaving the ring 24 for reception of the leash 40. The nose member 12 connects with the ring 16 and doubles back upon itself a half inch and is sewn, as all the seams which attach to rings are constructed for strength and durability. All seams face outward away from the dog's fur surface. The left cheek strap 50 extends from the ring 34 at the cheek to ring 16 near the dog's jaw. This can be of varying length depending on the halter size and size of rings 16 and 34. The under jaw strap 64 extends from ring 34 down under the jaw to the ring 32 with under chin strap 66 connecting at the center of strap 64. Ring 22, under the dog's jaw is able to move from contact with the dog's jaw all the way down to the ring 24, offering the dog an opportunity to completely open his jaw. However, should the handler wish to correct the dog for aggression, the ring 22 can be fully retracted to hold the jaw closed with a temporary muzzle effect.

PAGE 6, PARAGRAPH 2:

C8 Refer now to Figure 3. Ring 14 is shown with each strap 20, 52, 12 coming through the underside (the side against the dog), through the ring 16, overlapped by one half an inch and then glued and sewn.